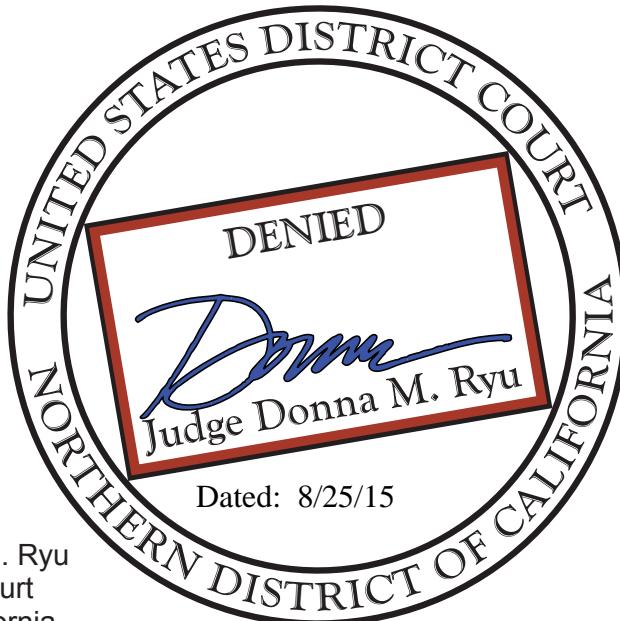


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August 21, 2015

VIA CM/ECF

The Honorable Donna M. Ryu
United States District Court
Northern District of California
1301 Clay Street, Suite 400S, 4th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

**Re: *Nahideh Haghghi v. Emirates*
Case No.: 4:15-cv-01198-SBA**

Dear Judge Ryu:

We are writing regarding the Settlement Conference scheduled in the referenced matter for September 17, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. Pursuant to the Notice of Settlement Conference and Settlement Conference Order, dated June 26, 2015 (hereinafter "the Order"), Emirates respectfully requests that its representative be excused from attending the Settlement Conference or, in the alternative, be permitted to participate in the Settlement Conference by telephone.

The Order provides, in pertinent part, that: "an insured party shall appear with a representative of the carrier with full authority to negotiate up to the limits of coverage." Emirates is an insured party, and a representative of Emirates' Insurers will be traveling from London to personally appear at the Settlement Conference on Emirates' behalf.

In addition, according to Alternative Dispute Resolution Local Rule 7.4(a), "[a] party other than a natural person (e.g., a corporation or an association) satisfies [the] attendance requirement if represented by a person (other than outside counsel) who has final authority to settle and who is knowledgeable about the facts of the case." In light of the fact that a representative of Emirates' Insurers who is fully knowledgeable about the facts of the case and who has final settlement authority will be appearing personally at the Settlement Conference, Emirates will have satisfied the attendance requirement. As such, it is unnecessary for a representative of Emirates to attend the Settlement Conference. Emirates' interests will be adequately protected by its counsel and Insurers.

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In light of the foregoing, we respectfully request that a representative of Emirates be excused from participating in the Settlement Conference. Alternatively, we respectfully request that a representative of Emirates be permitted to participate in the Settlement Conference by telephone.¹

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to attending the Settlement Conference.

Very truly yours,



Kevin R. Sutherland

cc: John McKay, Esq. (via CM/ECF)

¹ Plaintiff's counsel has advised us that plaintiff opposes Emirates' request.